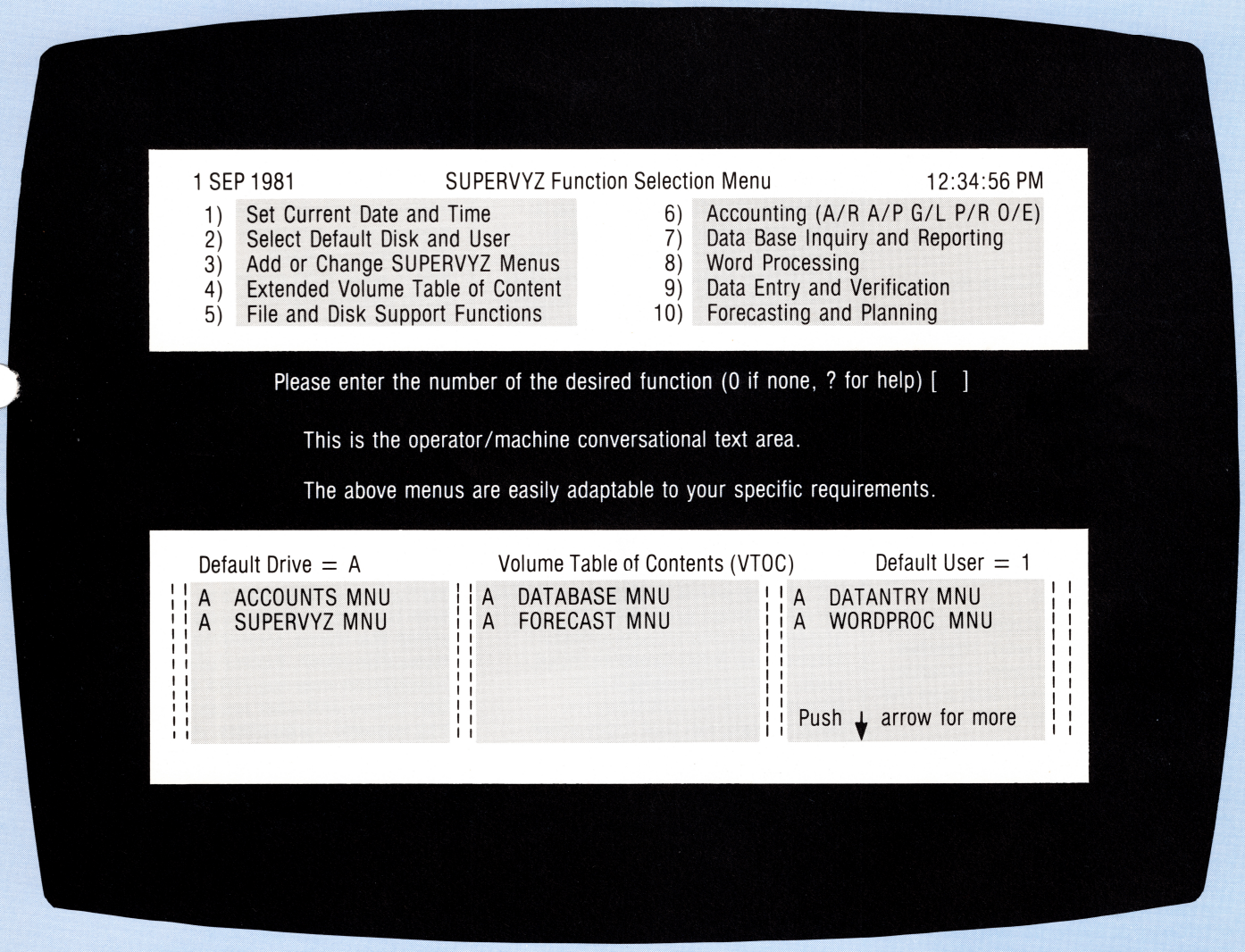
SUPERVYZ™

application software control for CP/M™


1 SEP 1981
SUPERVYZ Function Selection Menu
12:34:56 PM
1) Set Current Date and Time
2) Select Default Disk and User
3) Add or Change SUPERVYZ Menus
4) Extended Volume Table of Content
5) File and Disk Support Functions
6) Accounting (A/R A/P G/L P/R O/E)
7) Data Base Inquiry and Reporting
8) Word Processing
9) Data Entry and Verification
10) Forecasting and Planning
Please enter the number of the desired function (0 if none, ? for help) [ ]
This is the operator/machine conversational text area.
The above menus are easily adaptable to your specific requirements.
Default Drive = A
Volume Table of Contents (VTOC)
Default User = 1
A ACCOUNTS MNU
A SUPERVYZ MNU
A DATABASE MNU
A FORECAST MNU
A DATANTRY MNU
A WORDPROC MNU
Push ↓ arrow for more

A MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH FOR CP/M™ USERS

Now and forever – A menu driven utility program providing a compatible interface for users of CP/M™ application software. Supervyz automatically generates all CP/M™ commands and ties it all together.

*Supervyz is a trademark of Epic Computer Corporation.
CP/M is a trademark of Digital Research.

EPIC™ SOFTWARE

Breakthrough In CP/M Application Technology

PROGRAM DATA

Computer
Z80 or any 8080 compatible processor
Memory Requirement
40K bytes operating system
Operating System
CP/M 2.2 or later
MP/M 1.1 or later
Menu Nesting
No limit
Menu Building

Number of Functions	10
Description Size	: 32 char.
Command Line Size	: 128 char.
No. of Parameter Requests	: 5
Size of Default	: 32 char.
Size of Answer	: 32 char.
File Specification	: 8

Operational Disk Space
28K bytes
Typical Menu Size
2K bytes
Typical Help File Size
2K bytes
Programs Included

SUPERVYZ:	Interactive System Manager
SUPERCCP:	Extended Console Command Processor
MENUSDEF:	Interactive Menu Builder
HELP:	Interactive Tutor
INSTALLZ:	Configuration Program

TECHNICAL ANSWERS

What is SUPERVYZ? It is a software system, consisting of five (5) programs, which work together to provide a menu-driven mediator between the computer user and the resident operating system.

Will it run on my computer? SUPERVYZ will work on any computer running a standard version of Digital Research's CP/M Version 2.2, MP/M Version 1.1, or compatible derivatives (Cromemco's CDOS, for example). Non-standard operating system versions (for systems with no alterable memory at address 0) require special versions of SUPERVYZ.

Do I have to customize my operating system to run SUPERVYZ? The only special operating system requirement is that whenever the computer is first started up ("cold-boot"), it must invoke a program called "SUPERCCP". This is done by making a one-time change to the keyboard buffer area of the disk resident Console Command Processor ("CCP"). This modification is performed by the interactive INSTALL program supplied with the SUPERVYZ package.

How does it work? When invoked, the SUPERCCP program locates the top of the Transient Program Area ("TPA"), overlays the standard CCP with Epic's extended Console Command Processor, reduces the top of the TPA to point below the new CCP, and redirects both the System Call and Warm Boot vector addresses. This extended CCP does not look for console keyboard input; it relies on other programs to fill its buffers. Whenever its primary buffer is empty (including when it is first invoked), it runs SUPERVYZ. The SUPERVYZ program builds command lines from prototype commands and parameter requests defined within menu (type "MNU") files. For instance, the function "Erase A File" may request parameters ("What is the File Name?", "What is the File Type, if any?", and "On which Drive?") and thereby expand the prototype command line "ERA $3:$1.$2".

How has the Console Command Processor been extended? Aside from using two command buffers, the SUPER-CCP has been modified to allow multiple commands per line (separated by the concatenation-symbol, 7CH) thereby allowing "submit" facilities on write-protected disks. All command line text between braces ("{ }") is saved in a special buffer for application programs, supplanting the input normally fetched via BIOS Console Input calls. The standard SUBMIT program can be run from the default disk, not just from drive "A:". The new CCP also recognizes drive "@:" as the current disk and "user @" as the current user area. All disks are logged as on-line whenever the SUPER-CCP is entered, so the irritating "BDOS Err - R/O" message is a thing of the past. Because requests for Warm-Boot and System-Reset are trapped by the CCP, drive "A:" no longer requires an operating system once SUPERVYZ has been booted up.

Can application programs use the SUPER-CCP? Any program that places a command line in the primary buffer of the extended CCP and then jumps to the CCP entry point can pass control to the SUPERCCP. Application input can be supplied by placing text between braces ("{ }") in the SUPERCCP command line. With these features, your programs can "chain" and pass parameters.

Will SUPERVYZ work with my programs? Any program which runs under standard 2.2 CP/M, 1.1 MP/M, or a compatible derivative, will work with SUPERVYZ if there is room for the SUPERCCP and the application program.

How much memory does SUPERVYZ use? The SUPER-CCP makes itself resident like the operating system, and it requires 4 kilobytes of alterable memory. The SUPERVYZ program and its associated HELP and MENUSDEF programs are normal program transients, ranging in size from 8K to 28K. The minimum CP/M system size capable of supporting SUPERVYZ is 40K.

How much disk space does SUPERVYZ use? The five programs that comprise the SUPERVYZ software require 60K of disk space, and each menu file needs 2K. If you implement "help" files for your menus, they generally range from 1 to 2 kilobytes each.

Will it work with my terminal/ video board? SUPERVYZ has an interactive INSTALL program which configures both SUPERVYZ and MENUSDEF for the most popular terminals and video boards. A listing of the configuration parameter area is also provided, should your terminal differ from those predefined.

Can I customize or add menus? The interactive MENUSDEF program allows you to create or alter menus. A menu consists of the Function Descriptions which form the list of processing options within the menu, including the menu title itself. Each Function Description may log onto specific disk drives and user areas, and may request parameters. Any parameter responses or their optional default values may be used to expand the prototype command line. Each Function Description also has associated File Specifications which control either the on-screen directory (Volume Table of Contents) or the search for Required Files.

What language was SUPERVYZ written in? The entire SUPERVYZ software package was written in Intel-8080 Assembler.

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